

THE JOURNAL

Friday, May 2, 1845.

FOR CONGRESS,
HON. JAS. J. M'KAY,
OF MADEN COUNTY.

Late From England.

As matters now stand, every arrival from Europe is looked for with the deepest interest by the people of this country. Many of our most intelligent citizens believe that our relations with England are destined, at no very distant day, to be seriously disturbed—that a war with that power is almost inevitable. Whether those who entertain this opinion are correct or not, can only be ascertained by the lapse of time and the development of circumstances. By the arrival of the steamship *Caledonia* at Boston, from Liverpool, we have dates from England up to the 5th of April. The news by the *Caledonia* derives its chief importance from the accounts which it brings us of the spirit in which the statesmen of the English Legislature have commented upon that portion of Mr. Polk's Inaugural Address which refers to the Oregon Territory. In another column of this week's *Journal* we present our readers with an abstract of the speeches of Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel, both eminent British statesmen, and the latter at the head of the Government. It will be seen from those speeches, that the people of England take in high dudgeon the declaration of Mr. Polk, that the title of the United States to the Territory stretching along the Pacific Ocean, from the 42d to the 54th parallel of North Latitude, is clear and undoubted. The closing remarks of Sir Robert Peel are particularly significant. "As the subject," says Sir Robert, "had been brought under discussion, he felt it to be his duty, on the part of the Government, to state, in language the most temperate, but at the same time the most decisive, that they consider that we have a right to this territory of Oregon, which is clear and unquestionable; that we desire an amicable adjustment of the differences between ourselves and the United States; but that, having exhausted every effort to obtain it, if our rights are invaded, we are resolved and prepared to maintain them." Now this is no idle declaration by a rhetorical debater in the House of Commons; but it must be regarded, at least in effect, as the solemn dicta of the English Government. We may then, regard it as certain, that Great Britain will contest our right to that Territory. For those at all acquainted with the politics of that country, well know that the English Ministry are by the declaration of her mouth-piece, the Premier, quoted above, committed on the subject. The *London Times* newspaper, the political articles of which are supposed to be semi-official, at the close of an article on this subject, holds the following language: "Our position in the matter is a defensive, though not altogether a passive, one. England desires an amicable adjustment; but if that is rendered impossible, the untractable policy of her opponent, the aggressive conduct of the American government, and the unparalleled language of the President, suffice to prepare us for the other alternative. The rights of British subjects in the country of the Oregon must of course be defended; and, indeed, the British positions there are sufficiently strong to defend themselves from any sudden attack likely to be made upon them; but if any such attack be made by American citizens, the American government must, of course, be held responsible for it, and the people of the United States must take the consequences."

Now if both Governments persist in maintaining an absolute right to the Territory west of the Rocky Mountains, we do not see how an armed collision between England and the United States can well be avoided. That the people of this country will peremptorily, and at all hazards, assert their absolute and unqualified right to that Territory, is beyond a doubt. That England will pursue the same course, would appear to be equally certain, if we are to judge from the decided language held by those who wield her power. So that, so far as we can see, the chances for a third Panic war, are very fair. Such an event, should it take place, must bring with it the most disastrous consequences to the people of both countries. England and the United States are the two most commercial nations in the world. The Stars and Stripes of Columbia, and the Cross of Britain are found side by side in every portion of the Globe. Should a war take place, each of them would become the prey of the other. The commercial intercourse between the citizens of the two countries is much greater, and of much more importance, than that carried on between any other two nations on the face of the earth. But still, with whatever feelings of regret the American philanthropist and patriot may view these evils, the necessary incidents of war, yet, when the honor, as well as the ultimate interest of his country are concerned, his bosom will be animated with one spirit and one determination; and that will be to stand by, even to the death, that honor and that ultimate interest. There is one thing which pleases us on this subject; as regards our right to Oregon, and our determination to maintain inviolate that right, but one spirit pervades the bosom of every American. On this point the Clay man and the Polk man—the Texas man and the anti-Texas man—the hardy son of New England, and the fiery, impetuous Southern man—possess but one feeling—to resist, with the last drop of our blood, the arrogant pretensions of England to drive us from the shores of the Pacific.

Mexican News.

By our last accounts from Mexico, it would seem that the chances for war with that country, were becoming more apparent every day; that is, if we are to attach much weight to the bombastic manifestos of Mexican Diplomats. Our own opinion is, however, that it will end (to use a homely phrase) in all talk and no cider, on the part of that Government. In order, however, that our readers may see how matters stand between the two nations at present, and how far Mexico had gone in the matter at the last accounts, we present them with two letters from the Mexican Minister for foreign relations. The first, addressed to Gov. Shannon, our Minister to that country, and the other to the representatives of France, England, and Spain. We also call their attention to an article which we copy from the New Orleans *Picayune*, on the subject of our relations with Mexico. We have devoted a good deal of space to the Mexican news this week, but think we are excusable, as the relations between the government of that country and the United States, have created a deep interest at present.

VIRGINIA.

Three Glorious News from the Old Dominion.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of Thursday last comes to our office this week, literally laden with the accounts of the three glorious triumphs of Democracy in old Virginia. Never in the palmy days of her Jefferson and her Madison did the Democracy of the Old Dominion acquit itself more nobly than it has done in the recent election. Federalism has been driven from the field at every point—scarcely a grease spot left. The *Enquirer* says that 14 out of the 15 members of Congress just elected, are good Democrats. John Minor Botts, the man who said he would "head Captain Tyler," has been consigned to a political grave. Ditto, Willoby Newton, Seddon, Bayly, Hunter and Leake, are amongst those who will represent the Old Dominion in the 29th Congress. Both branches of the Legislature will be thoroughly Democratic. So that the Democratic Senate, at the last Session of that body, by its firmness, saved the Commonwealth from being misrepresented for the next six years, by its refusal to elect William C. Rives. And William C. Rives! what will become of him? where will he go? Echo answers, where?

Much gratitude, indeed, do the people of Virginia deserve at the hands of the Democratic party throughout the Union. By our next number, we shall be able to state with certainty, how the parties will stand in the Legislature. One thing is certain, both branches are Democratic; thereby insuring a Democratic U. S. Senator next winter. Well done Virginia.

Virginia University.

The Virginia papers are full of accounts of a disgraceful riot which took place at the University of that State, growing out of some ill feeling between the students, and W. E. Rodgers, one of the Professors. To such a pitch, did the outrageous conduct of the students go, that the business of the College was suspended, and the military had to be called in to quell the disturbance. The University buildings were actually turned into a barrack for some time. We are glad to see from the Richmond *Enquirer*, that order has been restored; and that the exercises of the institution have again been resumed.

The Post Office Department—Cave Johnson.

Mr. Johnson, the new Post-master General, seems to be going at the work of reformation and retrenchment in the Department, over which he presides, with a spirit and an energy, which bids fair to work a radical change in the whole system. We would not be surprised if the expenses of the Department should be reduced fully one-third, under his management. We see that he has given the Northern Mail contractors, a thorough rebuff. The Union is divided into four districts for the letting of mail contracts, which contracts are let on the first day of July, to hold for four years. It happens that the first of next July, is the period when the existing contracts in the New England States expire. The Post-master General issued a circular some time since, in which he stated that the new contracts would be let out under the provisions of the recent act of Congress, which provides that the transportation of the mail shall be let to the lowest bidder, without any regard to the manner in which it is carried. That is, that the contractor may carry it in stages, on horseback, or in a sulky, as he pleases; and so provides, that the new contractor shall not be compelled to buy the stock, stages, &c., of the old one. The contractors of New England, have been in Washington for some time, endeavouring to induce Mr. Johnson to postpone the operation of the law, as far as regards them, and either to let the contracts under the old law, or permit them to go on under the present contracts. They addressed him a letter on the subject, to which he replies, (in effect) that he can't accommodate them—that the law is one of reform, and that he has determined to carry it out as well in letter as in spirit. The cheap postage system will have every advantage which a rigid and economical administration of the department can afford it, and if the reduction in expenses be as large as some of our friends anticipate, the deficit in the receipts towards paying its expenses, will not be so great as was at first supposed. Go it, Cave.

Onward! Onward! flows the tide.

There are some peculiar and distinctive features which distinguish the Anglo-Saxon from every other branch of the human family. His industry, his perseverance, and his enterprise are known and felt in every nook and corner of the world, where these qualities can be exercised with any prospect of advantage to their owner. But it is on the continent of America where his native energies are untrammelled by the onerous and artificial machinery with which they are clogged by the Governments of the old world, that his strides in the march of civilization and empire are the most rapid and magical, if we may be permitted the expression. Scarcely half a century has passed away since the vast extent of territory lying between the Alleghany and Rocky Mountains was a wilderness, as little known to the nine-tenths of the people of the "old thirteen" as the wilds of Siberia. Now that wilderness has been transformed, as if by the wand of a mighty magician, into a great and civilized Empire. The waters that traverse it, daily bear upon their bosom millions of dollars' worth of property. New States are almost yearly springing up and knocking at the door of Congress for admission. But we must stop this strain; it gave rise to it was the accounts which meet our eye in every Southern and Western paper which we take up, of the immense tide of emigration which is daily flowing over the Rocky Mountains, towards the Pacific. Companies of from fifty up to two thousand persons, are reported to be constantly leaving different points in the West, for the banks of the Columbia. Many of these hardy pioneers of civilization, are to take up their abode, hundreds and hundreds of miles from their friends on this side the "great ridge," there to lay the foundation of new and powerful Pacific States, which, at no distant day, are to rival those which now lie along the coast of the Atlantic. Many that are now playing their part on the theatre of life, will live to see a direct trade between the mouth of the Columbia river, and the Empire of China. And it is not at all improbable that, before another half century, we, of the Atlantic States, will be receiving our semi-monthly "over-land mail," from China, the Sandwich Islands, &c., as England now does from her East India possessions—such is the march of the Anglo-American.

Reform is the order of the Day.

Our readers will see from the Circular below, that Mr. Polk not only preaches, but that he is determined to practice reform in the administration. He requires the clerks in the various offices to do their duty. They are paid for so doing, and we think it is but right that they should be compelled to attend strictly to their business.

Circular.

WASHINGTON CITY, April 11.

Sir:—In executing the laws, there is no duty which appears to me more imperative than to take care that officers who receive the public money shall promptly and fully perform the duties for which the law appropriates their respective salaries. Justice to the public and a proper regard for the clearly expressed will of Congress, require that this shall be done. Those who come to the seat of Government, on public business, should not be unnecessarily delayed by the negligence or inattention of bureaus, or clerks, connected with the executive departments. I therefore invite your attention to the thirteenth section of the act of Congress, approved on the 26th of August, 1842—"An act legalizing and making appropriations for such necessary objects as have been usually included in the general appropriation bills, without authority of law, and to fix and provide for certain incidental expenses of the departments and officers of government, and for other purposes"—and to the 12th section of the "Act to reorganize the General Land Office," approved on the 4th of July, 1836.

I desire that you will cause the monthly reports, required by the act of 1842, to be regularly made, and that you will transmit them to me. The law contemplates that the distribution of labor amongst the clerks shall bear a fair proportion to their compensation; and it is unjust that the meritorious and faithful should have to perform the duties of such as may be found to be negligent, idle or incompetent. To prevent this injustice, it is essential that each clerk shall attend regularly in his office, and discharge his own appropriate duties. It is desired that each head of a bureau shall cause to be made a daily statement, showing the absence of each clerk from his duty during office hours—the causes of such absence as far as he may be able to ascertain them, and that this statement accompany the monthly reports.

I also desire that you will accompany the monthly reports with a statement of any complaints which may be made to you of any clerk in your office who may have contracted debts since his appointment, and does not pay them agreeable to contract. Disclaiming any right to interfere with the private affairs of officers of Government, I am yet unwilling that they shall be embarrassed in the performance of their public duties by the just importunities of disappointed creditors, who trusted them on the faith of their compensation from the Treasury.

Believing that the duties required of the officers and clerks employed in the several Executive Departments, are by no means unreasonable, and impressed with their importance of a prompt and efficient despatch of the public business, I desire that you will take measures for the due execution of the laws to which I have called your attention.

Respectfully yours,

JAMES K. POLK.

Extract of a Letter received in this town, dated BATH, Beaufort Co., N. C., April 26, 1845.

"The cold spell about three weeks ago, killed very nearly all the crops in this county, and the Chinese bug are taking the corn almost as fast as it can be planted. The wheat crop is nearly all killed in consequence of the cold, and some farmers are plowing it up."

The loss occasioned by the great fire in Pittsburg, upon a careful examination, is said to be about three and a half millions.

J. C. Dobbin, and the Wake District.

In last week's *Journal*, we stated that James C. Dobbin, Esq., of Cumberland, had been nominated by the Democratic Convention, as the candidate for Congress in the Wake district. We felt some anxiety then, knowing as we well did, that it would be prejudicial to Mr. Dobbin's personal interest, as to whether he would accept the nomination. We are much pleased to see by the Carolinian, of last Saturday, that Mr. Dobbin, in a spirit of patriotism and devotion to the good cause, which cannot be too highly commended, has accepted the nomination so unanimously tendered to him. Below we give his letter of acceptance, which we find in the Carolinian. We do so, because it is short, and is according to our notions, a model of the spirit and the style in which such letters should be written:

FAYETTEVILLE, April 25, 1845.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter in which you announce that I was unanimously selected by the Democratic Convention at Mrs. Barclay's, as a candidate to represent this Congressional District in the next Congress of the United States. Although flattered by this unsolicited desire to elevate me to an honorable station, and grateful for this unexpected testimonial of popular favor—I express my sincere sentiments when I assure you that, had my personal wishes been consulted, the Convention would certainly have nominated some other gentleman. Unambitious of political promotion, I have been quietly engaged in the practice of my profession. The limited part I have hitherto borne on the stage of politics was prompted solely by a disinterested desire to promote certain principles, as I hoped, for the benefit of our country, and not my own personal advancement. Having early entertained a decided opinion that the measures advocated by the Democratic party, were best calculated to secure our country's prosperity—sincerely apprehensive of the dangerous tendency of the prominent measures of the "whig party," I have ever, with frankness and zeal, contributed my aid to foster the principles of the one party, and discourage those of the other. Aware of the peculiar circumstances which occasioned my selection by the Convention, and of the inconvenience, and perhaps discord and division that might ensue, were I now to decline, I deem it my duty to accept the nomination. And as you remark in your letter, that in my hands you have placed "our banner and our principles," permit me at least to pledge myself to be always found endeavoring to "uphold the one" and to "maintain the other." And should the people of this District, honor me with an election, their approbation will be sought for only by pursuing the course of the Representative, who acts from an honest desire to promote the welfare of his constituents, and who, in casting his votes, thinks of the consequences to his country first—to himself last. With sentiments of regard for the kind manner in which you have communicated the wishes of the Convention,

I remain your ob't serv't.

JAMES C. DOBBIN.

To Messrs. John Puritoy, D. K. McRae, and others.

Florida.

On the 26th of this month, the new State of Florida elects her first Governor, and her first member of Congress. The Democratic Convention has nominated W. D. Mosely, a native, and at one time a prominent citizen of this State, as the Democratic candidate for the first, and David Levy, for the second of their offices.

New York—the Bowery Theatre once more burned.

On the 25th ult., this splendid building was reduced to a pile of smouldering ruins by fire. This is the fourth time since 1825, that this theatre has been destroyed by fire.

Earthquake at the City of Mexico.

On the 7th ult., the city of Mexico was visited by a terrible Earthquake. The shocks lasted but two or three minutes. In that short space of time, however, the damage done was immense. Many of the finest buildings in the city were prostrated to the earth. We do not learn whether any lives were lost. The scene is described as being one of the most awful which ever met the human gaze. The pavements yawned—the houses trembled and quivered like leaves in the autumnal blast.

We see the *Chronicle* comes out at last, and acknowledges that it was wrong and unjust, in the slander which it perpetrated some months ago, against Mr. Pearsall, of Duplin. It is very wrong for the conductor of a public press, to publish any thing derogatory to the character of a private individual, unless he is certain that his information is correct. It is still worse when he finds that he is wrong, not to come out magnanimously, and acknowledge his error. The *Chronicle* has committed both the minor and the major wrong; for its retraction is too late to bring any credit to its author.

Cape Fear Lodge No. 2, I. O. O. F.

IN OPEN LODGE.

THURSDAY, April 22d, 1845.

On motion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, and it was ordered that a copy of the same, under the seal of the Lodge, be certified by the Secretary, and transmitted to Mrs. McLaughlin, the widow of our deceased brother, Robert McLaughlin, and that the same be published.

WHEREAS, it has pleased the Almighty, in his mysterious Providence, to remove from among us our beloved brother, Robert McLaughlin: Be it Resolved, That in the death of our brother, this Lodge has sustained an irreparable loss; that his talents, virtues, and social qualities had endeared him to us; that while we bow in resignation to the will of that providence which has removed him from the scene of his active usefulness here below, we will cherish in our hearts, the remembrance of his excellencies, fondly trusting he has received a rich reward above.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the widow of our deceased brother, in her severe affliction, and offer her our sincere condolence, commending her to him, "who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" for that consolation which he alone can afford.

Wilmington, April, 1845.

Imperial Parliament.

In the House of Commons, Lord J. Russell on reading the order of the day for going into committee of supply, called the attention of the house to that part of the message of the President of the United States which related to the territory of Oregon. It was not his intention, he said, to enter at all into the question of the foreign policy of Her Majesty's Government, or even of their policy on this very subject of the Oregon, neither was it his wish by any observations which he might then make to embarrass their proceedings. But the inaugural address of President Polk had taken this question out of the ordinary course of diplomatic arrangement, and required some notice on the part of the members of that house. That distinguished functionary had adopted a course entirely new, which, if it were not met with something unusual on their parts, would let questions of great national importance be decided hereafter by popular addresses from the head of the government, and by the popular action resulting therefrom. The President, in his message, had alluded to the annexation of Texas to the U. States, an allusion which he only noticed for the purpose of showing that the present policy of the executive government of the United States tended to territorial aggrandisement. In his next sentence, the President declared his intention to assert and maintain, by all constitutional means, the right of the United States to that part of the territory which was situated beyond the Rocky Mountains. "Our title," said he, "to the country of Oregon is clear and unquestionable, and already are our people preparing to perfect that title by occupying it with their wives and children." In consequence of this declaration, he (Lord J. Russell) felt compelled to call the attention of the house and the country to this question, in order that they might see how far the President was justified in saying that his title to the country of the Oregon was clear and unquestionable, and in declaring his intention to take it into his possession without any regard to those treaties, which were generally the bonds of peace between independent nations. There were three modes by which a title might be acquired to a country like the Oregon: the first was by ancient discovery; the second, by treaty; and the third, by discovery, ancient or modern, followed up by occupation and settlement. He then entered into a statement, for the purpose of showing, that if the title to the Oregon rested on ancient discovery, England could put in a claim far superior to that of the United States; and if it rested on treaty, we had a claim that was undeniable, whilst that of the United States had no ground whatever to stand on, and that if it rested on modern discovery, the discovery of Columbia, made, carried on, and authorized by regular officers of the British Government, and the subsequent settlement of the territory surrounding it by British subjects, gave us a title which the American Government could not displace. Captain Vancouver had discovered the river Columbia; his lieutenant had sailed 90 miles up its stream, and British subjects from Canada had erected 18 forts on its banks, and had long been carrying on a favorable trade there. He then gave a history of the negotiations between Great Britain and the United States respecting this country, and traced them from their commencement to the period when the existing convention was formed in 1827, between Mr. Rush on the one side, and Mr. Huskisson on the other.

A new circumstance had now arisen up. The President of the United States had made a peremptory claim to all this territory, and had called upon the citizens of the United States to go forth with their wives and children to take possession of it. Now, Columbia was become of more importance each succeeding year. The Government ought, therefore, to insist on a speedy solution of this question; for there was danger lest the citizens of the United States should disturb British subjects in the enjoyment of their property on the Oregon, and should thus produce a collision between the two Governments. He was not prepared to say that Great Britain should abate any of her just pretensions, nor where we should draw the line between the Americans and ourselves. He thought, however, that we could not accede to a proposal less than that made by Mr. Canning, in 1827, with any regard to our own interests. He had heard it said that the value of this territory was a matter of indifference to us; but it was not a matter of indifference to us whether we should yield any portion of our territory to what he must be permitted to call a bustling announcement. It was not a matter of indifference to us, that the means of communication between Columbia on the one hand, and our possessions in India and China on the other, should be surrendered to a foreign power. It was not a matter of indifference to us that the tone and character of England should be lowered in any transaction which we carried on between the United States. He should have abstained from entering into this question if it had been left as a diplomatic transaction between the Earl of Aberdeen and Mr. Buchanan, as the agents of the British and American Governments; but as it had been taken out of their hands, he could do what the Minister of the Crown was precluded by his position from doing—he could state to the people of England what were their rights. Having made that statement, he should leave the whole matter in the hands of the Government, and he had no doubt that they would consult the interests of the country and the honor of the Crown.

Sir R. Peel could not be surprised, and could not feel regret, that the noble lord had taken the course which he had pursued. He was of opinion, that, whilst these matters were pending in negotiations between the two Governments, it was politic to abstain from exercising the right of discussion on subjects calculated to excite popular feeling, unless there were cogent reasons to the contrary. If the noble lord had thought it right to depart from that course on this occasion, he ought not to be held responsible for the consequences; for it appeared that this question had been withdrawn from the cognizance of those to whom it had been intrusted, and that a popular appeal had been made to the passions of the people in the United States, by those who ought to have discountenanced such an appeal. The noble lord had said that a Minister of the Crown spoke on such a question as the present, under a responsibility to which he (Lord John Russell) was not liable. That was undoubtedly true, and he should therefore abstain from following the noble lord through his statement, as we could not do so without implying opinions from the expression of which he ought to abstain. He felt, however, that it was open to him to inform the house of the general state of our negotiations with the United States on this question. In the year 1818 the northern boundary of the possessions of the United States and Great Britain, westward of the Rocky Mountains, was defined. No agreement was made as to the country beyond the Rocky Mountains; but a convention signed between the two governments in 1818, which was to continue for ten years, gave a right of joint occupation to the subjects of each country. In 1824, and again in 1826, Mr. Canning made several attempts to come to an amicable adjustment of our

respective claims with the American government. Those attempts entirely failed. At the end of ten years the convention expired. A new convention was framed in 1827, which continued in force for ten years; the convention of 1827 could not necessarily determine beyond the term of ten years, and should terminate after a year's notice from either party, when the rights of both should revive. That was the convention which now affected the territory of Oregon. Mr. Packenham, our minister, had been directed, in 1842, to form an amicable arrangement of the claims of the two countries on equitable terms. He read a message of President Tyler, dated the 3d of December, 1843, for the purpose of showing that he had expressed an equal desire to come to an amicable arrangement. Nay, more, on the 19th of February, 1845, about a fortnight before this inaugural address was delivered by President Polk, President Tyler, in reply to an address from the Senate of the United States, asking information relative to the negotiations pending on this question with England: "I have only to say that, as the negotiations are still pending, this information cannot be given. Considerable progress has been made in the negotiations, which have been carried on in an amicable spirit between the two countries; and I hope that it will be speedily brought to an amicable termination."

He (Sir R. Peel) could confirm the language of President Tyler respecting the amicable spirit in which the negotiations had been carried on; but he could not confirm his statement as to the progress of the negotiations, and to his hopes of an amicable termination. On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk made his inaugural address as President. Since that time we have received no communication from our minister, who had only been able to communicate the message, but had not had time to make any comment on it. The government of President Polk had been very recently appointed, and no diplomatic communication, as far as he was informed, had taken place with it. He thought it highly probable that Mr. Packenham would have continued with the present government the negotiations which he had commenced with the last; but he had no information on the subject. He trusted that the negotiations would be renewed. At no very distant period they would know the result of them. He did not despair of their favorable termination; but if the proposals of the British government should be rejected, and no proposals were made by the government of the United States to which we could accede, he should not object, on the part of the government, to lay on the table all the communications between the two governments. He still hoped that an amicable and equitable adjustment of the claims of the two countries might be made. He must, however, express his deep regret that, while the negotiations were still pending, the President of the United States should contrary to all usage, have referred to other contingencies than a friendly termination of them. [Hear, hear, and cheers.] Such an allusion was not likely to lead to such a result as the friends to the real interests of both countries desired. He regretted not only the allusion, but also the tone and temper in which it was made. As the subject had been brought under discussion, he felt it to be his duty, on the part of the government, to state, in language the most temperate, but at the same time the most decisive, that they consider that we have a right to this territory of Oregon, which is clear and unquestionable; that we desire an amicable adjustment of the differences between ourselves and the United States; but that, having exhausted every effort to obtain it, if our rights are invaded, we are resolved and prepared to maintain them.

From the New Orleans *Jeff. Republican*, April 13.

MEXICO.

The brig *Gaudete* arrived at this port the day before yesterday, from Vera Cruz. Although our correspondent sent us a letter and two copies of the *Siglo XIX*, containing the correspondence between the Mexican government and Mr. Shannon, the letter reached us only yesterday, and the papers are still among the missing. These repeated instances of failure to receive packages, regularly and addressed to us, are a source of great annoyance and just complaint. We have copied the correspondence alluded to from the *Picayune*. The letter contains an important item of intelligence, which, we believe, has not reached here through any other source.

It appears by this that Mexico will probably once more try the fortune of war in invading Texas, thereby compelling the United States, in the event of Texas embracing the resolutions of our Congress, for her own self defence, to take the initiative in the hostilities which must ensue between the two countries. The United States will necessarily be obliged to put forth her strength to defend her South-western boundary, which will be the Rio Grande. This is precisely the course, tortuous and indirect as it is, which we stated in one of our late numbers, Mexico would be likely to pursue in her display of anger and resentment toward the United States. If Mexico will commit suicide, she will then perish. The conflict will be that of the earthen pot and the metal pot floating on the tide together, according to the old fable.

VERA CRUZ, April 3, 1845.

Dear Sir:—I have nothing of any importance to communicate, and would only call your attention to two numbers of the *Siglo XIX*, the 19th, I send you by this vessel, for the note passed by this government to Gov. Shannon, by which all diplomatic relations with them are at an end. I remain, &c.

P. S. Since writing the above I have just received my letters from Mexico, and copy the following from one: "In Congress today a proposition has passed to a second reading, for a large majority, making it high treason for any person who should make proposals for the recognition of the independence of Texas, or the cession of that country to the U. States. I believe a large majority of Congress will agree to declare war against the United States, but will send a large force to Texas with the object of conquering it, by this means forcing the United States to declare war, if she wishes to protect Texas."

Mexico, March 29th, 1845.

To His Excellency Wilson Shannon, Envoy Extraordinary, &c. &c. National Palace, Mexico, March 29, 1845. The undersigned, Minister of Foreign Relations, in addressing himself, for the first time, to his Excellency Mr. Wilson Shannon, Minister Plenipotentiary from the U. States, desires to inform him, that as both houses of the United States Congress have sanctioned